MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is—

"That the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Amendment Bill, 1965 (L.A. Bill No. 23 of 1965), as passed by the Assembly, be passed."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed.

4-40 p.m. (4) THE MADRAS DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1965 (L.A. BILL NO. 15 OF 1965.)

* THE HON. SRI S. M. A. MAJID : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I move—

"That the Madras District Development Councils (Amendment) Bill, [a] 1965 (L.A. Bill No. 15 of 1965), as passed by the Assembly, be taken into consideration."

According to sub-section (1) of section 6 of the Madras District Development Councils Act, 1958 (Madras Act XVIII of 1958), not more than three months shall elapse between one meeting of the District Development Council and another. Taking this into account and in order to secure the efficient transaction of business by the District Development Councils, instructions have been issued by the Government that the meetings of the District Development Councils should be held in the alternate months of February, April, June, August, October and December every year. In accordance with the above instructions, the District Development Council meetings are normally held once in two months, that is well within the time-limit specified in sub-section (1) of Section 6. But there are instances where the District Development Council meetings could not be held once in every three months. In East Ramanathapuram, the District Development Council meeting to be held in December 1964 had to be postponed due to the cyclonic conditions then prevailing in the district. Further the term of office of the Chairman of Panchayat Union Councils (who form the bulk of the members of the District Development Councils) expired on the 2nd February 1965 and the new Chairmen of Panchayat Union councils assumed office only in April 1965. Hence the meetings of the District Development Councils which should have been held during the months of February and April in the current year could not be held. It may be contended that since more than three months elapsed between two meetings of the District Development Councils, the subsequent acts and proceedings of the councils are not valid in view of the express provisions contained in sub-section (1) of section 6. Such a contention may not have much force since the requirement regarding time-limit specified in the said sub-section is only directory and not mandatory. If so, the acts and proceedings of the District Development Councils, which held meetings at intervals of more than three months, will not be rendered invalid. However, in order to place the matter beyond controversy, it is proposed to amend section 7 of the Act to provide

[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 47-48.

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that no act or proceeding of a District Development Council sball be deemed to be invalid on the ground only that more than three months have elapsed between one meeting of the Council and another. It is also proposed to validate all acts and proceedings hitherto done or taken by the respective District Development Councils.

In conformity with the recommendation made b ythe Committee of the Legislature on Subordinate Legislation, section 14 of the Act is also proposed to be amended so as to provide for publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of every rule made or notification issued under the Act and also for placing on the Table of both Houses of the Legislature of every such rule or notification.

I have briefly indicated the salient features of the Bill. The Objects of the Bill have been set out in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. I commend the motion for the acceptance of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

" That the Madras District Development Councils (Amendment) Bill, 1965 (L.A. Bill No. 15 of 1965), as passed by the Assembly, be taken into consideration ".

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Clauses 2 to 4 were put and carried.

Clause 1, the Long Title and the Enacting Formula were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI S. M. A. MAJID : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I move :

" That the Madras District Development Councils (Amendment) Bill, 1965 (L.A. Bill No. 15 of 1965), as passed by the Assembly, be passed ".

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

" That the Madras District Development Councils (Amendment) Bill, 1965 (L.A. Bill No. 15 of 1965), as passed by the Assembly, be passed ".

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed.

(5) THE MADRAS MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS BILL, 1965
(L.A. BILL NO. 22 OF 1965).

* THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I move : 4-40 p.m.

' That this House concurs with the Assembly in setting up a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses consisting of 18 Members (12 Members of the Legislative Assembly and 6 Members of